

REMARKS

The Final Office Action of March 24, 2008, has been carefully reviewed, and in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the above Office Action, claims 1-4 and 7-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chandrasekaran (U.S. Patent No. 6,093,157).

In view of the Examiner's comments in the Advisory Action mailed July 14, 2008, the independent claims have been amended to remove the "formed of" language noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants reiterate their traversal of the pending rejections. The Examiner's interpretation of Chandrasekaran fails to disclose "an intermediate layer comprising a mixture of said first material and said second material," as recited in independent claim 1.

Independent claims 8 and 9 recite layers comprising similar mixtures of the first and second materials which are not disclosed in the cited prior art. The remaining claims depend from claims 1, 8 or 9 and patentable based at least upon their dependence therefrom.

Consideration and acknowledgement of the Information Disclosure Statement previously submitted on June 24, 2008, is kindly requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application; the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned counsel for Applicants regarding the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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